[26th March 1954

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" I have already explained that there is litigation in respect of the major portion of the land. The Government have to evolve a policy in respect of the whole estate."

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV :—" Sir, may I request you to allow a half-hour debate on this question to-day? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" How is it possible? To-day is the last day for consideration of Demands. I have to guillotine a number of Demands."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Is the litigation that is said to be pending in respect of wet lands or dry lands? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" In respect of both, Sir."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" As the subject is very important . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Can the hon. Member tell me which subject is unimportant? "

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" The Government have been repeatedly telling us that they will give lands to poor landless people wherever possible. But, they have not done anything in this regard till now. There are 25,000 acres of land in Malabar in Koothali estate which is not a small thing so far as that district is concerned. It may be a small thing for other areas. But it is not the case with regard to Malabar, in view of food scarcity. In view of the importance of the subject, it is better we have a half-hour debate on this subject, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member should also consider the reply given by the Hon. Minister. He has said that the matter is before a Court and so it is *sub judice*. Question No. 398."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" I put the question on behalf of Sri Ratnam."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Hon. Member Sri Ratnam came and told me that he has asked Sri Dasarathan to put the question on his behalf. But he is keeping quiet."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sri Ratnam it seems has, by way of abundant caution asked me also to put the question. That is why I put the question on his behalf, Sir."

Betting on New York Cotton Prices.

* 398 *Q*.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were sentenced in 1953 in the City of Madras for receiving bets on New York Cotton Prices;

(*b*) how many persons were involved in the betting of the New York Cotton Prices; and

26th March 1954]

(c) whether any person, who paid for the bets, was also sentenced?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) 2,367.

" (b) 2,770.

" (c) Yes, Sir."

SRI D. DASARATHAN :—" ஸார், 1953–ம் வருஷம் கோர்ட்டிலே வசூலிக்கப்பட்ட அபராதத் தொகை எவ்வளவு ? சூதாட் டத்தை ஒழிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் கூடிய சீக்கிரம் சட்டம் கொண்டுவருமா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not have the total figure of fines collected. If a separate question is put, I shall give the figure, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Finance Minister, may I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that one Mr. Muthu having lost a large sum by betting over this kind of New York Cotton prices committed suicide and left a letter to that effect on his person which was taken by the Police? In view of such grave instances, will the Government take immediate action at least in the future to stop this kind of betting? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This betting is illegal and it comes under the provisions of the City Police Act and we are taking action under that Act. But, in spite of this. I agree this practice exists to a certain extent. We are trying our best to put it down."

Construction of an anicut across the Arniyar.

* 399 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the construction of the Arniyar anicut near Pulikundram, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district; and

(b) if so, at what stage it stands at present?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) & (b) The Government are constructing an anicut across the Araniar at Suratpalli about three miles from Pulikundram as part of their Araniar project. The construction of the anicut is nearing completion. The stages of construction up to the end of January 1954 is as follows :—

(i) *Body wall.*—300′ 0″ length has been completed. For 190′ 0″ body wall has been raised for 2′ 0″ height. For the balance length, viz., 26′ 0″ piles were sunk.

(ii) *Groyne wall.*—Built to a height of 13′ 0″ out of 14′ 0″.

(iii) *Scour and head sluices.*—Walls raised to a height of 14′ 0″ above floor level.

(iv) *Flood bank formed.*—Right side.—1000′ 0″.
Left side.—200′ 0″.